

Feb. 22, 2022

MEDICAID ALERT

TO: CLTC Case Management Providers

SUBJECT: Termination of the Provision of Heaters

Effective Feb. 22, 2022, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) will no longer permit community long term care (CLTC) case managers to authorize heaters in the Phoenix case management system for participants enrolled in the Community Choices, HIV/AIDS, and Mechanical Ventilator Dependent waivers. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) determined that this item is of general utility and is not a coverable service. Any requests currently in process prior to the effective date of this directive cannot be fulfilled.

Due to the population that is served by these waivers, the need for heaters may still be present. Case managers should continue to assist waiver participants with identifying alternative resources to meet this need as with any other need that is not covered through the waiver or Healthy Connections Medicaid state plan services. One potential option for case managers, those receiving care through a home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver or other members of the public to find alternative options to meet this need is SCDHHS' [Community Connections tool](#). Community Connections is a free 24/7 online database of resources that connects South Carolinians in need with available social and health care services across the state. The Community Connections database is available for anyone, regardless of whether they are a Healthy Connections Medicaid member, and can be accessed through search bars on www.scdhhs.gov and scparents.org, or directly at www.scdhhs.gov/communityconnections. The database is also a helpful tool for community-based organizations to find and refer individuals to resources that may be outside of their specialty.

Questions regarding the information contained in this alert should be submitted to CO-WaiverPolicy@scdhhs.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of the South Carolina Healthy Connections Medicaid program.

